

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests consideration on the merits, and early allowance of the claimed invention. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

Customer No. 24978

December 11, 2003

300 South Wacker Drive
Suite 2500

Chicago, Illinois 60606

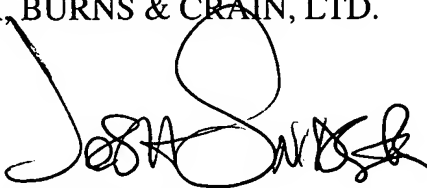
Telephone: (312) 360-0080

Facsimile: (312) 360-9315

F:\DATA\WP60\0941\68792\Preliminary Amendment.doc

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

By

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Josh C. Snider", written over a large, stylized circular flourish.

Josh C. Snider

Registration No. 47,954